

MINUTES OF THE BEATRICE CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

A work session of the Beatrice City Council was held on the 26th day of November, 2012 at the Sargent Room, Beatrice Public Library, 100 N 16th Street, Beatrice, Nebraska.

Attending: Mayor Schuster, Councilmembers: Carey, Catlin, Fetty, Langdale, Moore, Parde, Schmale, and Tiemann. Also present: City Administrator Tobias Tempelmeyer and City Attorney Gregory Butcher.

Absent: None

Mayor Schuster announced that a copy of the Open Meetings Act is available in the meeting room and is accessible to members of the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve agenda as submitted.
- b. Receive and place on file all notices pertaining to this meeting
- c. Receive and place on file all materials having any bearing on this meeting.

Moved by Fetty, seconded by Langdale, that the items listed under the consent agenda be approved, accepted, and/or ratified as presented.

Roll Call: Yea: Carey, Catlin, Fetty, Langdale, Moore, Parde, Schmale, Tiemann.

Nay: None

MOTION CARRIED.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Agreement with Humane Society

Councilman Moore noted that he requested this item be removed from the prior council meeting and discussed at this work session. John Rypma, of the Humane Society Board of Directors, explained their budget status for the previous and current year. Mr. Tempelmeyer noted that most of the issues related to the Humane Society were in regards to conflicts of personality, written orders for extended stays or euthanasia, and veterinary care. Mr. Rypma noted that veterinary care was one of the highest expenses incurred. Mayor Schuster noted that the Humane Society and the Beatrice Police Department operate with differing goals. Beatrice Police Chief Bruce Lang said that if any issues were of concern within the agreement they would be brought forth. Rita Hydo, of the Humane Society Board of Directors, noted that the largest veterinary expense incurred from animals brought by the City are animals which have been darted. Mr. Tempelmeyer noted that these animals are usually less than 10 per year. The Councilmembers expressed a desire to have the agreement considered at a future Council Meeting.

Review of Proposed 2009 Building Codes

Beatrice City Attorney Gregory Butcher introduced the 2009 Building Codes to be considered. Mr. Butcher spoke about the changes from the current 2003 Codes adopted by the City. Butcher explained that these code recommendations would likely come forward and be heard on three (3) separated occasions to allow the public and those involved in the industry to have time to review and make comment on them. Butcher explained that fees would now be adopted per resolution rather than stated in ordinance. Steve Printy, acting Building Inspector, spoke about the codes, his certifications, and the changes which are found in the 2009 versions.

City Councilman-Elect Ted Fairbanks asked how codes or ordinances may be used to assist with vacant, dilapidated, and miss used properties in the downtown area. Mr. Fairbanks cited the Nebraska City ordinance which establishes fees and requirements on vacant and miss used downtown buildings. Mr. Tempelmeyer noted that the Nebraska City ordinance would be separate from the building codes. Councilman Tiemann had specific questions regarding stop work orders, applicability, and other matters related to the codes. Discussion was had by members regarding the exclusion of water heater replacement from the permit requirements. Councilman Parde and Rita Hydo spoke to the dangers of improper water heater replacements. Mayor Schuster noted that water heater replacements have previously been removed from the codes currently adopted. The Councilmembers expressed a desire to have the ordinance considered at a future Council Meeting.

Funding for West Court Street and Indian Creek Bridge Repairs

Tobias Tempelmeyer presented information regarding the repairs being competed on the West Court Street and Indian Creek Bridges. The total costs for the repair projects have dropped from an original estimate of \$94,000 to \$42,500. The majority of the savings was found in overlaying rather than replacing sidewalk on the Court Street Bridge and using in-house labor for both projects. Mr. Tempelmeyer noted that the Street budget is very tight this year and that if we are going to fund these repairs then other projects such as the valley gutters or the City's mill and overlay project will need to be moved back or set aside. The other funding option offered for discussion was the use of Keno funds. Councilman Moore inquired about repair costs going up in the future. Mr. Tempelmeyer noted that the only unknown cost would be associated with a certified welder of which the City does not have on staff.

City Councilman-Elect Fairbanks noted that projects like these may need to be funded by reductions in workforce, wage reductions, and through the shared use of employees between differing departments.

The Councilmembers expressed a general desire to considered funding the repair projects with keno funds at a future Council Meeting.

Elected Officials Conducting Business with the City

Councilman Moore stated that this was an idea that he has been considering and talking about for a few years. The councilmembers had a discussion about the public perceptions that come from

The Councilmembers expressed a general desire to consider an ordinance or resolution regulating elected officials and others from conducting business with the City of Beatrice at a future Council Meeting.

Moved by Fetty, seconded by Schmale, that the meeting be adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Attest:

Linda S. Koch, City Clerk